

## Message Text

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USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09

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FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9295

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMAVIWT JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMCONSUL TANGIER

USDEL FRANCE

USDEL JEC PARIS

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

CINCPAC

COMUSMACV

CDRUSSAG NKP RTAFB

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 4 SAIGON 5112

E. O. 11652/ GDS

TAGS: PINS PINT MILI VS

SUBJECT: VIETNAM CEASEFIRE SITUATION REPORT - MARCH 28, 1973

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

CONFIDENTIAL

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THIS REPORT SUMMARIZES ALL PERTINENT INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO  
THE EMBASSY AS OF 2000 MARCH 28.

SUMMARY HIGHLIGHTS

PART I: ICCS: CANADIANS EXTEND CONDITIONALLY; POLES MAY RETURN TO TRI TON

PART II: FPJMC: NO DECISION YET ON EXTENSION

PART III: TPJMC: PRG REQUESTS US HELP IN REDEPLOYING

PART IV: RVN/ PRG BILATERALS: VIETNAM PRESS CLAIMS PRG HAS ADMITTED NVA PRESENCE

PART V: GVN CHARGES 8,833 COMMUNIST CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS

PART VI: MR-1 MILITARY ACTIVITY LIGHT; REFUGEES AT WORK IN DANANG; RF MORALE PROBLEMS IN QUANG NGAI

PART VII: MR-2 ACTION DOWN IN COMPARISON TO LAST FEW DAYS; ICCS ACTIVE IN BAO LOC, BINH THUAN; PRG " REVOLUTIONARY GOVTS" IN BINH DINH

PART VIII: MR-3 TONLE CHAM STILL UNDER FIRE; GVN CLASSIFYING VOTERS

PART IV: MR -4 MILITARY ACTIVITY UP; MY THO ICCS CONDUCTS FIRST INESTIGATION; TERROR WAVE IN KIEN HOA

PART I. INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR CONTROL AND SUPERVISION (ICCS)

1. CANADIAN EXTAFF MIN SHARP ANNOUNCED TO PARLIAMENT MARCH NB27 THAT CANADA WILL EXTEND ITS PARTICIPATION ON THE ICCS FOR 60 DAYS. AT THAT TIME, THE GOC WILL REVIEW THE SITUATION AGAIN AND DECIDE WHETHER TO SERVE NOTICE OF WIT KRAWAL IN 30 DAYS, OR AGAIN TO EXTEND CANADIAN PARTICIPATION. SHARP WARNED THAT UNLESS WITHIN 60 DAYS THERE HAS BEEN SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT IN THE SITUATION OR DISTINCT PROGRESS TOWARD A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, CANADA WILL SERVE NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL.

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2. POLDEL SOURCE CONFIRMS CANDEL REPORT THAT ICCS WILL UNDERTAKE FIRST RECCE OF THE AN LOC SUB- REGION SITE MARCH 29. DEPLOYMENT TO AN LOC IS EXPECTED BY POLDEL TO TAKE PLACE SEVERAL DAYS THEREAFTER.

3. POLDEL ALSO HAS A NEW TEAM IN READINESS TO RETURN TO TRI- TON, CHAU DOC, FROM WHICH POLES AND HUNGARIANS PRECIPITOUSLY WITHDREW MARCH 23. THE NEW HYAM MAY GO IN AS EARLY AS MARCH 29, IF REGION VII ( CAN THO) POLDEL COMMANDER DETERMINES

CONDITIONS AT TRI TON HAVE IMPROVED SOMEWHAT.

PART II: FOUR PARTY JOINT MILITARY COMMISSION ( FPJMC)

1. THERE HAS AS YET BEEN NO DECISION WHETHER TO EXTEND THE FPJMC. A MEETING WAS HELD MARCH 27 TO CONSIDER THE REDEPLOYMENT PLAN FOR THE US, OUT OF RVN, THE DRV TO HANOI, AND THE PRG FROM BS REGION FPJMC HQ'S TO SAIGON. AGREEMENT WAS REACHED ON A SIMULTANEOUS REDEPLOYMENT OF THE THREE TEAMS ON MARCH 30 AND 31, IF THERE IS NO EXTENSION.

2. THE FINAL PHASE OF US POW AND CIVILIAN DETAINEE RELEASES PROCEEDED ON SCHEDULE MARCH 28. AT APPROXIMATELY 1230 LOCAL TIME, THE RELEASE OF THE 100 PATHET LAO PRISONERS (7 US MILITARY, 2 US CIVILIANS, 1 CANADIAN CIVILIAN) WAS COMPLETED IN HANOI. THE 40 US POWS HELD BY THE DRV LEFT GIA LAM ( HANOI) AT 1548 HOURS LOCAL TIME.

PART III: TWO PARTY JOINT MILITARY COMMISSION ( TPJMC)

1. LTG TRA, CHIEF OF THE PRG DELEGATION, HAS REQUESTED US ASSISTANCE TO BRING HIS PERSONNEL BACK FROM THE FIELD TO SAIGON FOR ORIENTATION " PRIOR TO THEIR DEPLOYMENT FOR THE TPJMC." IN VARIOUS CONVERSATIONS, GEN. TRA HAS EXPRESSED TO US CONTINUED CONCERN ABOUT THE SECURITY OF PRG PERSONNEL, AND HAS INDICATED A DEADLINE OF MAY 1 FOR IMPROVEMENT IN PRG DELEGATION LIVING CONDITIONS AND FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT. US HAS AGAIN RECOMMENDED THAT RVN TAKE STEPS TO MEET REASONABLE PRG DEMANDS AND AMELIORATE CONDITIONS BEYOND CONSIDERABLE WORK ALREADY DONE.

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2. IN US DEL MEETING MARCH 27 WITH LTG CAO HAO HON, CHAIRMAN OF THE RVN INTERMINISTERAL COMMITTEE ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CEASE- FIRE, HON INQUIRED ABOUT ARRANGEMENTS WHEREBY EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVES CONCERNED WITH TPJMC WOULD " MAINTAIN CONTACT WITH RVN AUTHORITIES IN ORDER TO PROVIDE ADVICE AND APPROPRIATE ASSISTANCE." IN RESPONSE, US DEL SUGGESTED REGULAR MEETINGS BOTH WITH HON AND WITH LTG QUANG, MILITARY ASSISTANT TO PRESIDENT THIEU. IN SAME CONVERSATION, HON STATED THAT MG THUAN, WHO WILL HEAD UP THE RVN DELEGATION TO THE TPJMC, WOULD BE REPORTING BOTH TO HIMSELF AND TO LTG QUANG. HON ALSO OBSERVED THAT ALTHOUGH THUAN HAD HAD CLOSE ASSOCIATION WITH THE PRESIDENT IN SCHE PAST, HE IS NOT THE TYPE OF MAN TO FORCE ISSUES AND SEEK DECISIONS. RATHER, HE WILL PROBABLY WIAT AND DO ONLY WHAT HE WAS TOLD TO DO."

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y ( P A R A 2 )

PART IV: RVN/ PRG BILATERALS

1. FURTHER REPORTING IN OFFICIAL VIETNAM PRESS ( VP) CONCERNING  
THIRD SESSION OF RVN/ PRG BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS HELD ON  
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MARCH 26 ADDS FOLLOWING TO YESTERDAY' S ACCOUNT ( SITREP MARCH

27). PRG INSISTED ON DENOUNCING US WITHDRAWAL SLOWDOWN AND ATTITUDE ON MILITARY PRISONER RELEASE IN SPITE OF RVN DELEGATE VIEN' S REMINDER THAT THESE MATTERS DID NOT CONCERN BILATERALS. FINALLY VIEN SUGGESTED THAT TWO SIDES ADOPT A JOINT RESOLUTION DEMANDING WITHDRAWAL OF ALL EXTERNAL FORCES FROM SOUTH VIETNAM. THE OTHER SIDE DID NOT RESPOND BUT, ACCORDING TO VP, DID NOT DENY PRESENCE OF NVA IN SOUTH OR FACT HIS PRESENCE CONSTITUTED A VIOLATION OF SOUTH VIETNAMESE PEOPLE' S RIGHT OF SELF- DETERMINATION. PRG ALSO AGAIN FAILED TO REPLY TO RVN' S SUGGESTED AGENDA.

2. IN PRESS CONFERENCE FOLLOWINGOUGH A LENDER COUNTRY DOES NOT ACQUIRE A " VESTED" OR " PROPERTY" RIGHT IN THE PROJECTS IN WHICH THE BORROWING COUNTRY ENGAGES, IT DOES ACHIEVE AN " ACQUIRED RIGHT." AN ACQUIRED RIGHT IS SOME INCORPOREAL ACCOUNTABILITY FOR SOME VISIBLE ONGOING PROJECTS OR FOR PROPERTY WHICH THE SUCCESSOR STATE IS ENJOYING. THIS " ACQUIRED RIGHT" IS CERTAINLY NOT AS STRONG AS A DOMESTIC PERFECTED " SECURITY INTEREST" BUT IT DOES MEAN THAT THERE IS SOME LEGAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE LENDER OF THE CAPITAL AND THE PROJECT IN BENEFICIARY SUCCESSOR STATE. THE AUTHORITIES POINT OUT THAT IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE THE WORDS " ACQUIRED RIGHTS" HAVE NOT ASSUMED THE LEGAL SIGNIFICANCE OF A TERM OF ART, BUT IN GENERAL, THEY MEAN THAT THE CREDITOR STATE AND THE PREDECESSOR STATE ARE ENTITLED TO SOME CONSIDERATION BY THE SUCCESSOR STATE.

5. THE SUCCESSOR STATE IS GENERALLY NOT OBLIGATED TO ACCEPT GENERAL TREASURY OBLIGATIONS OF THE PREDECESSOR. AUTHORITIES ALSO AGREE THAT A SUCCESSOR STATE NEED NOT TAKE LIABILITY FOR " ODIOUS DEBTS." " ODIOUS DEBTS" ARE DEBTS THAT WERE CONTRACTED FOR PURPOSES HOSTILE TO THE SUCCESSOR STATE OR DEBTS THAT WERE USED IN WARFARE AGAINST THE SUCCESSOR STATE. O' CONNELL, IN " LAW OF STATES' SUCCESSION," 1956, STATES: " AN INTEREST WHICH A CREDITOR POSSESSES IN A DEBT MUST IN ORDER TO CONSTITUTE AN ACQUIRED RIGHT PROTECTED BY INTERNATIONAL LAW BE AN INTEREST IN FUNDS UTILIZED FOR THE NEEDS AND INTERESTS OF THE STATE." NO DOUBT THE BANGLADESH WILL ARGUE THAT PART OF PAKISTAN' S CONFIDENTIAL

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DEBT CONSTITUTE " ODIOUS DEBTS" TO THEIR PRESENT AND PAST NATIONAL INTERESTS.

6. HYDE POINTS OUT THAT WHILE A SUCCESSOR STATE" IS NOT LIABLE FOR THE GENERAL DEBT OF THE PARENT STATE, IT IS SADDLED WITH LOCAL OBLIGATIONS, SUCH AS THAT TO REGULATE THE CHANNEL OF A RIVER, OR FOR LOCAL DEBTS, WHETHER THOSE DEBTS ARE CONTRACTED FOR LOCAL OBJECTS,

OR DEBTS SECURED UPON PRESENT LOCAL REVENUES...."

7. INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE SUPPORTING OBLIGATION OF  
A SUCCESSOR STATE TO ASSUME APPROPRIATE DEBTS FOLLOWS;

A. EVIAN AGREEMENTS OF 1956 INCLUDED STATEMENT  
THAT " ALGERIA SHALL ASSUME THE OBLIGATIONS AND ENJOY  
THE RIGHTS CONTRACTED IN ITS NAME OR IN THAT OF  
ALGERIAN PUBLIC ESTABLISHMENTS BY THE COMPETENT FRENCH  
AUTHORITIES."

B. " ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE AGREEMENT" OF  
NOVEMBER 2, 1949, BETWEEN THE NETHERLANDS AND INDONESIA  
INCLUDED A DIVISION OF INDONESIA' S PROJECT DEBTS.

C. IN NEARLY ALL BRITISH COMMONWEALTH INDEPENDENCE  
SETTLEMENTS, NEW STATES ASSUMED CERTAIN RESPONSIBILITIES  
FOR EXISTING DEBTS. NEARLY ALL OF THE EUROPEAN WAR  
SETTLEMENTS OF WORLD WAR I AND II INCLUDED DEBT  
DIVISION AND SETTLEMENT. A LIST OF OTHER DEBT SETTLEMENTS  
FOR SUCCESSOR STATES IS IN POUCHED MEMO.

8. DELEGATION SHOULD BE AWARE USG' S RECORD IN THIS  
REGARD IS NOT STRONG. THE U. S. G. REFUSED TO ACCEPT ANY  
PUBLIC DEBT IN THE TREATY SETTLEMENT OF THE  
REVOLUTIONARY WAR IN 1783. U. S. G. ALSO REFUSED TO  
TAKE OVER ANY PART OF THE LOCAL CUBAN DEBT AFTER 1898.  
IN THE TREATY FOR THE ACCESSION OF LOUISIANA IN 1803,

FLORIDA IN 1821 AND TEXAS AND CALIFORNIA IN 1848, THE  
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U. S. G. TOOK OVER NO PART OF THE GENERAL DEBTS OF FRANCE,  
SPAIN, OR MEXICO, ALTHOUGH IN THE LATTER CASE THE  
PROVINCES WERE OF GREAT VALUE AND OF SERIOUS LOSS TO  
MEXICAN REPUBLIC.

9. 1972 REPORT BY INTERNATIONAL LAW COMMISSION URGES  
" CLEAN SLATE" FOR SUCCESSOR STATES DOCTRINE ON  
GENERAL TREASURY DEBTS EXCEPT WHERE SUCCESSOR STATE  
VOLUNTARILY ACCEPTS DEBT. IF BANGLADESH REFERS TO THIS  
REPORT, U. S. SHOULD EMPHASIZE THAT ILC POSITION HAS NOT  
YET BEEN ADOPTED BY THE UN AND THAT IT APPLIES TO  
GENERAL PUBLIC DEBTS AND NOT TO LOCALIZED SPECIFIC  
PROJECTS OR DEVELOPMENTAL TYPE DEBTS.

10. U. S. HAS FIRM GROUNDS TO INSIST THAT PAKISTAN RETAIN  
LEGAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR DEBTS UNTIL ASSUMED BY  
BANGLADESH. LEGAL LIABILITY FOR DEBT RESTS WITH PRE-  
DECESSOR STATE ( IF IT STILL EXISTS) UNTIL DIVISION  
SETTLEMENT IS REACHED. PAKISTAN THEREFORE HAS INTEREST

IN TAKING INITIATIVE TO PERSUADE BANGLADESH TO ACCEPT  
RESPONSIBILITY FOR APPROPRIATE DEBTS.

11. INTERNATIONAL LAW IN THE AREA OF SUCCESSOR STATE  
DEBTS IS NOT FIRMLY SETTLED, BUT U. S. G. CAN ARGUE WITH  
CONFIDENCE ( A) UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW PAKISTAN REMAINS  
LEGALLY LIABLE FOR DEBTS UNTIL BANGLADESH IS PERSUADED  
TO ACCEPT SOME OF THEM; AND ( B) UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW  
BANGLADESH HAS AN OBLIGATION TO ACCEPT THAT PORTION  
OF PAKISTAN' S DEBTS WHICH ARE NOT ODIOS TO THEM AND  
WHICH ARE RELATED TO SPECIFIC PROPERTY AND VISIBLE PROJECTS  
LOCATED IN BANGLADESH TERRITORY. ROGERS

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9297

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AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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USDEL FRANCE

USDEL JEC PARIS

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

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PART VII: MR-2

1. ACTION IS DOWN FROM THE RELATIVE HIGH OF PAST FEW DAYS. REGION WAS GENERALLY QUIET, WITH WIDELY SCATTERED COMMUNIST ABF'S ON RVNAF POSITIONS REPORTED IN BINH DINH, PHU YEN, PLEIKU, AND KONTUM. MOST SERIOUS OF THESE WAS VC MORTAR ATTACK ON CONFIDENTIAL

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RANGER BATTALION HQS IN PLEI DJERENG AREA OF PLEIKU WHICH CAUSED 3 KIA, 11 WIA, AND DAMAGE TO ONE HELICOPTER ON GROUND.

2. KONTUM SECTOR REPORTS TOTAL OF 29 MEMBERS OF RF COMPANY PRESUMED LOST IN MAR 25 BATTLE WITH VC ( MAR 27 SITREP) HAVE STRAGGLED INTO HQ TO DATE; FIFTY REMAIN UNACCOUNTED FOR.

3. DARLAC REPORTS 26 MONTAGNARDS FROM REMOTE AREA OF BAN ME THUOT DISTRICT LEFT ON WOOD- CUTTING EXPEDITION TO THEIR FORMER HAMLET, DRANG PHOK, SEVERAL DAYS AGO AND HAVE NOT BEEN HEARD OF SINCE. SECTOR ASSUMES THEY HAVE BEEN ABDUCTED BY VC. ANOTHER TERRORIST INCIDENT OCCURRED IN LAM DONG ON MAR 25: HIGHLAND SCHOOLTEACHER THERE WAS ASSASSINATED BY VC WHILE WORKING IN HIS RICE FIELD.

4. CANDELS AND INDOELS ON BAO LOC SUB- REGIONAL TEAM VISITED HOSPITALIZED VICTIMS IMMEDIATELY UPON LEARNING OF VC MORTAR ATTACK AT DAI HOC TEA PLANTATION, MAR 25, IN WHICH 15 CIVILIANS WERE WOUNDED. ON FOLLOWING DAY, SAME TWO DELS BEGAN PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION. POLDELS AND HUNGDELS WERE INSTRUCTED BY RESPECTIVE HQS IN PHAN THIET NOT TO PARTICIPATE. PROVINCE CHIEF, AWARE OF PLANNED POPULAR DEMONSTRATION, DECIDED AGAINST ACCOMPANYING CANDEL/ INDOEL TO LOCATION SO AS TO AVOID IMPRESSION PEOPLE ACTING UNDER HIS DIRECTION. CANDEL INTERROGATED WITNESSES AND PHOTOGRAPHED HOUSING AREA, WHICH HAD TAKEN FOUR MORTAR HITS. ICCS REPS ALSO INSPECTED FIRING SITE. CANDEL NOTED THAT HOUSING AREA SITS 150 METERS FROM RF OUTPOST ON STRAIGHT LINE BETWEEN FIRING SITE AND RF POSITION. REPORT WILL LIKELY INDICATE THAT VC INTENDED TO MORTAR OUTPOSTS WITH ALL ROUNDS FALLING SHORT. BEFORE DEPARTING HAMLET, ICCS REPS HEARD LONG SPEECH FROM VILLAGE CHIEF AND ACCEPTED WRITTEN PROTEST FROM PEOPLE. CANDEL, IN REPLY, EXPRESSED SYMPATHY FOR VICTIMS AND HOPE THAT SUCH INCIDENTS WOULD NOT REOCCUR.

5. ALL CHIPS PRESENTLY INVESTIGATING MAR 10 INCIDENT NEAR TAN DIEN HAMLET, BINH THUAN. HOWEVER, POLDELS AND HUNGDELS IN PHAN THIET AND PHAN RANG ARE BOYCOTTING ALL GVN- SPONSORED SOCIAL EVENTS; CANDELS AND INDOELS GO ON TOURS AND PICNICS WITHOUT THEIR EASTERN EUROPEAN COLLEAGUES.

6. CHEO REO POLOFF NOTES THAT PHU BON PROVINCE OFFICIALS ARE CONTRIVING TO USE ICCS AS INTERMEDIARY BETWEEN POPULACE AND



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VC. THEY SEEM TO HOPE ICCS MIGHT SUCCEED IN PERSUADING VC TO RELEASE ABDUCTEES AND IDENTIFY GRAVESITES. PROV OFFICIALS PLANNING TO PRESENT SUMMARY LIST OF COMPLAINTS TO ICCS MOST OF WHICH INVOLVE VC ACTIVITY PRIOR TO CEASE- FIRE. PLAN ACCORDS WITH POPULAR MISCONCEPTION IN PHU BON THAT ICCS TASK IS NOT ONLY TO PROTECT THE PEOPLE FROM THE VC BUT ALSO TO RENDER SATISFACTION FOR PAST OR POTENTIAL COMMUNIST MISDEEDS. POLOFF NOTES THAT PEOPLE SEEM TO THINK JMC HAS SUBSIDIARY AND SUPPORTING ROLE TO ICCS.

7. HUNGARIAN LIEUTENANT TORKO ( PHONETIC), ONLY COMMUNIST REP EVER ASSIGNED TO CAM RANH POE TEAM, WAS PULLED BACK TO PLEIKU WITHOUT EXPLANATION CIRCA MAR 26. CANDEL REP SPECULATES THAT POLES AND HUNGARIANS FEAR POSSIBLE DEFECTIONS AND BELIEVES THEY WILL NO LONGER DEPLOY ONE- MAN TEAMS. SOME INDICATION THAT CAM RANH TEAM WILL GET A HUNGDEL DUO BEFORE LONG.

8. FINAL REGIONAL FPJMC MEETING SCHEDULED MAR 28 IN REGION IV HQ, PHAN THIET. IN CONJUNCTION WITH START OF ICCS TAN DIEN INVESTIGATION ( PARA 6, ABOVE), JMC REPS MET MAR 26 AND ARGUED SHARPLY OVER WHO CONTROLS TAN DIEN AREA AND ALSO OVER WHO WAS AGGRESSOR IN OTHER RECENT FIGHTING NEAR PHAN THIET. FLURRY OF CEREMONIES AND OUTINGS MARKING DEPARTURE OF USJMC ELEMENT.

9. BINH DINH PRP SURVEY REPORTS PRG HAS SET UP " REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENTS" IN AT LEAST 13 OF PHU MY DISTRICT' S 15 VILLAGES. THESE " GOVTS" REPORTEDLY EXERT WELL- ORGANIZED AND MULTI- RO FACETED CONTROL OVER VILLAGE POPULATIONS LOCATED OUTSIDE SMALL ENCLAVES OF GVN CONTROL AROUND RVNAF POSITIONS IN THE DISTRICT. INITIAL REPORT SAYS VC CADRE HAVE COLLECTED PEOPLE' S GVN ID CARDS AND ISSUED PRG IDENTIFICATION. WHEN PEOPLE MUST TRAVEL INTO GVN- CONTROLLED AREAS, CADRE ISSUE TRAVEL PERMITS AND TEMPORARILY RETURN GVN ID' S.

10. PHU BON DEP PROVINCE CHIEF FOR SECURITY TOLD POLOFF THAT HE VIEWS PARIS AGREEMENT AS " TRAP" FOR RVN AND ASSERTED THAT COMMUNIST NEVER INTENDED TO LIVE UP TO PROMISES. DPC CITED AGREEMENTS OF 1954 AND 1962 AS EVIDENCE THAT IT IS FOOLISH TO TRUST IN COMMUNISTS KEEPING THEIR WORD.

PART VIII: MR-3  
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1. ARVN III CORPS REPORTED LIGHT MILITARY ACTIVITY IN THE PRECEDING 24 HOURS, WITH ONLY 10 INCIDENTS, ALL REPORTED AS

VC/ NVA INITIATED (3 GROUND PROBES AND 7 ABF' S). TONLE CHAM BASE CAMP RECEIVED OVER 150 ROUNDS OF MORTAR AND 107 MM ROCKETS IN 3 SEPARATE ATTACKS. AIR DROP RESUPPLY IS DIFFICULT DUE TO ENEMY GROUND FIRE, BUT THE CAMP HAS AN ESTIMATED 10 DAYS SUPPLY OF FOOD, MEDICINE AND AMMUNITION. THE ICCS AT LAM SON HAS BEEN ASKED BY THE RVN TO NEGOTIATE A PERMANENT CEASEFIRE AT THE LOCATION, BUT NO RESPONSE HAS BEEN RECEIVED THUS FAR.

2. THERE WAS SIGNIFICANT GROUND ENGAGEMENT IN BINH TUY PROVINCE NEAR HAM TAN WHERE THE 20 TH RF PLATOON WAS MORTARED AND THEN ATTACKED BY AN UNKNOWN SIZE VC/ NVA FORCE. THE VC LOST 5 KILLED AND THREE CAPTURED AND THERE WERE 2 RF WOUNDED. IN ADDITION, THERE WERE 4 BOOBY TRAP INCIDENTS IN THE REGION WHICH KILLED 1 AND WOUNDED 8 FRIENDLY. DAILY CASUALTY FIGURES WERE REPORTED AS 7 VC/ NVA KILLED, 4 FRIENDLY KILLED AND 23 WAIRMCED. NO CIVILIAN CASUALTIES WERE REPORTED.

3. VC/ NVA FORCES SWEPT PHUOC HOA HAMLET, PHU KHUONG DISTRICT ( TAY NINH) MARCH 27, ROUNDING UP APPROXIMATELY 1,000 CIVILIANS WORKING IN THE FIELDS AND HERDING THEM TO THIEN NGON,

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AMCONSUL CAN THO  
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COMUSMACV  
CDRUSSAG NKP RTAFB  
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THE POW EXCHANGE SITE IN NORTHWESTERN TAY NINH. THE VC/ NVA WERE EXPECTING A VISIT FROM THE ICCS AND WANTED TO GIVE THE AREA UNDER THEIR CONTROL THE APPEARANCE OF BEING POPULATED. THE ICCS DIDN' T TURN UP, AND THE CAPTIVE POPULATION WAS RELEASED AT 1500 HRS TO RETURN HOME.

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4. SOURCES ON THE XUAN LOC ICCS TEAM CONFIRM THAT PHUOC TUY AUTHORITIES HAVE REQUESTED AN OFFICIAL INVESTIGATION OF THE RECENT FIGHTING IN BINH BA, DUC THANH DISTRICT, PHUOC TUY. HOWEVER, SOURCES STATE THAT THE ICCS WOULD TAKE NO OFFICIAL ACTION UNTIL REQUESTED TO DO SO BY THE JMC. ANY INVESTIGATION" AT THIS TIME WITHOU G JMC ACTION WOULD BE STRICTLY UNOFFICIAL AND PROBABLY NOT INVOLVE EITHER THE POLISH OR HUNGARIAN MEMBERS, SINCE THEY HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTD BY THEIR HIGHER HEADQUARTERS NOT TO TAKE PART IN ANY VISIT OR INVESTIGATION WHICH DID NOT RESULT FROM JMC ACTION. SOURCES STATE THAT THE POLISH AND HUNGARIAN MEMBERS OF THE TEAM ARE CHAFING UNDER THESE RESTRICTIONS BUT HAVE STRICT ORDERS NOT TO TAKE PART IN ANY FIELD TRIPS OR INVESTIGATIONS ARRANGED DIRECTLY BY THE RVN WITH THE ICCS.

5. ICCS SOURCES STATED THAT THEY RECEIVE DAILY REPORTS OF CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS FROM RVN OFFICIALS IN LONG KHANH AND TAKE MOST OF THESE REPORTS AT FACE VALUE SINCE THEY HAVE BEEN ABLE TO VERIFY SOME INCIDENTS. HOWEVER, WITHOUT JMC ACTIVITY, THE FULL ICCS CAN NOT TAKE OFFICIAL ACTION. IN VIEW OF THE CONTINUING WIDESPREAD LOW- LEVEL ENEMY ACTIVITY, SOURCES STATED THAT THEY FELT THAT THE RVN HAD EVERY RIGHT TO DEFEND ITS AREAS OF CONTROL AND WOULD BE JUSTIFIED IN USING ITS H& I ARTILLERY TO INTERDICT INFILTRATION ROUTES THAT WERE BEING USED TO MOUNT ATTACKS ON RVN AREAS. THEY ALSO FELT THAT THE RVN COULD DEFEND SUCH H& I ON THE GROUNDS THAT ITS INTELLIGENCE HAD CONFIRMED THAT ATTACKS ARE CONSISTENTLY BEING MOUNTED ALONG CERTAIN INFILTRATION ROUTES.

6. CLASSIFICATION OF VOTERS IS BEING CARRIED ON BY RURAL DEVELOPMENT CADRE ( RDC) IN BIEN HOA. IN CONG THANH DISTRICT, THE RDC ESTIMATES THAT OF THD9,601 VOTERS, 9,371 ARE CATEGORY A ( PRO- RVN), 168 CATEGORY B ( UNDECIDED) AND 62 CATEGORY C ( PRO- COMMUNIST). DIN AN' S 16,462 VOTERS ARE CATEGORIZED AS 13,889 A, 2,015 B,

558 C; TAN UYEN' S 6,830 ARE CLASSIFIED AS 6,332 A, 341 B, 157 C. THESE ASSESSMENTS ARE PROBABLY OVERLY OPTIMISTIC, ALTHOUGH ALL THREE DISTRICTS WOULD BE PRO- RVN IN ANY ELECTION CONTEST AGAINST THE COMMUNISTS. IT SEEMS THAT THE RDC PREPARE THESE ESTIMATES ON THE BASIS OF THEIR LOCAL KNOWLEDGE OF THE VOTERS, WITHOUT ACTUALLY POLLING THEM, AND THAT THE ESTIMATES ARE INFLATED BY THE RDC' S NEED TO PROVE THEY HAVE BEEN EFFECTIVE IN HEIGHTENING THE ANTI- COMMUNIST SPIRITS OF THE PEOPLE FOR WHOM THEY ARE RESPONSIBLE. AT THE SAME TIME, THE CADRE CANNOT GO ALL THE WAY AND CLAIM 100 PERCENT CONFIDENTIAL

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PRO- RVN, BECAUSE THAT WOULD BE INCONSISTENT WITH OTHER OFFICIAL INFORMATION ON FAMILIES WITH RELATIVES IN THE VC, VCI AND VC SYMPATHIZERS.

PART IX: MR-4

1. MILITARY ACTIVITY IN MR IV INCREASED SOMEWHAT, RETURNING TO THE LEVEL OF LAST WEEK. THERE WERE 54 INCIDENTS MARCH 27, INCLUDING 2 GROUND ATTACKS AND 2 HAMLET INFILTRATIONS. THE INCIDENTS WERE CONCENTRATED IN TRI TON DISTRICT, CHAU DOC, HONG NGU, KIEN PHONG, AND IN DINH TUONG PROVINCE. THERE WERE A LARGE NUMBER OF " HOLLOW" INCIDENTS, CAUSING FEW OR NO CASUALTIES AND LITTLE DAMAGE. VNAF CONDUCTED 28 TACTICAL AIR STRIKES MARCH 27, HIGHER THAN THE DAILY AVERAGE FOR EARLY MARCH.

2. REGION VI ICCS CONDUCTED ITS FIRST INVEST

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

## Message Attributes

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**Review Event:**  
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**Review History:** RELEASED <16-Aug-2001 by izenbei0>; RELEASED <16-Aug-2001 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <18-Oct-2001 by smithrj>  
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AMEMAVIWT JAKARTA  
MANILA  
OTTAWA  
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TANGIER

FRANCE  
JEC PARIS  
VIENTIANE  
WARSAW  
DANANG  
NHA TRANG  
BIEN HOA  
CAN THO  
CINCPAC  
COMUSMACV  
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COMUSMACTHAI

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